

Sustenance of HIV/STI Protective Behaviors by Slum-dwelling Adolescent Girls and Young Women is associated with their Income Status

¹Julius N. Nguku*, ¹Elizabeth W. Mwaniki*, Tabitha Muia and ²Fiona N. Mbai*.

**¹Department of Community and Public Health*

**²Department of Biomedical Sciences and Technology*

Abstract

The burden of HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the highest among all the regions in the world constituting about 70% of the 6,000 new infections that occur globally daily. In Kenya, while there has been an overall decrease in new HIV infections from 2013 to 2015, infections among the young people have been increasing, and there is a disproportionate vulnerability of Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) to this infection. In this retrospective cohort study, we sought to establish whether the income status of slum-dwelling AGYW who had previously benefited from BCC HIV/STI prevention programmes is associated with sustenance of HIV protective behaviours. Quantitative data was collected through a standard Knowledge, Attitude, Perceptions and Behaviour (KAPB) survey tool with 207 respondents and analysed using a logistic regression model. Qualitative data included key informant interviews of four program managers and focus group discussions with 33 community leaders. The qualitative data was analysed through grounded theory technique. The results showed associations between earning more than KES 1,000 with sustenance of condom use, negotiating power in heterosexual relationships and voluntary testing for HIV. The findings provide a strong argument for including economic empowerment aspects into programmes targeting this sub-population.

IOSR Journal of Nursing and Health Science 7(6): 32-39.

[http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jnhs/pages/7\(6\)Version-6.html](http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jnhs/pages/7(6)Version-6.html)